



**House Bill No. 7109**

**Public Act No. 07-15**

**AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR  
PERSONS PROVIDING INTERPRETER SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 46a-33a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "Interpreting" means the translating or transliterating of English concepts to [specialized vocabulary] a language concept used by a person who is deaf or hard of hearing or means the translating of a deaf or hard of hearing person's [specialized vocabulary] language concept to English concepts. [Specialized vocabulary] Language concepts include, but are not limited to, the use of [American sign language] American Sign Language, English-based sign language, cued speech, oral transliterating and information received tactually;

(2) "Legal setting" means any criminal or civil action involving [the Superior Court or its agents] a court of competent jurisdiction, any investigation conducted by a duly authorized law enforcement agency, employment related hearings and appointments requiring the presence of an attorney;

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(3) "Medical setting" means medical related situations including mental health treatment, psychological evaluations, substance abuse treatment, crisis intervention and appointments or treatment requiring the presence of a doctor, [or] nurse or other health care professional; and

(4) "Educational setting" means a school or other educational institution, including elementary, high school and post-graduation schools where interpretive services are provided to a student.

(b) Commencing October 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, all persons providing interpreting services shall register with the Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired. Such registration shall be on a form prescribed or furnished by the commission and shall include the registrant's name, address, phone number, place of employment as interpreter and interpreter certification or credentials. Commencing July 1, 2001, and annually thereafter, the commission shall issue identification cards for those who register in accordance with this section.

(c) [On and after July 1, 2001, no] No person shall provide interpreting services unless such person is registered with the commission according to the provisions of this section and (1) has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test [and] or the National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification Knowledge Examination, holds a level three certification provided by the National Association of the Deaf, [and] documents the achievement of two continuing education units per year for a maximum of five years of commission-approved training, and on or before the fifth anniversary of having passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test or the National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification Knowledge Examination, has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the

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Deaf performance examination or the National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreter Certification examination, (2) has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test or the National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification Knowledge Examination and is a graduate of an accredited interpreter training program and documents the achievement of two continuing education units per year for a maximum of five years of commission-approved training, and on or before the fifth anniversary of having passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test or the National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certification Knowledge Examination, has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf performance examination or the National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreter Certification examination, (3) holds a level four or higher certification [or higher] from the National Association of the Deaf, (4) holds certification by the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (5) for situations requiring an oral interpreter only, holds oral certification from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (6) for situations requiring a cued speech transliterator only, holds certification from the National Training, Evaluation and Certification Unit and has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test, [or] (7) holds a reverse skills certificate or is a certified deaf interpreter under the National Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, or (8) holds a National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreting Certificate.

(d) [On and after July 1, 2001, no] No person shall provide interpreting services in a medical setting unless such person is registered with the commission according to the provisions of this section and holds (1) a comprehensive skills certificate from the

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National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (2) a certificate of interpretation or a certificate of transliteration from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (3) a level four or higher certification from the National Association of the Deaf, (4) a reverse skills certificate or is a certified deaf interpreter under the National Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, (5) for situations requiring an oral interpreter only, oral certification from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, [or] (6) for situations requiring a cued speech transliterator only, certification from the National Training, Evaluation and Certification Unit and has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test, or (7) holds a National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreting Certificate.

(e) No person shall provide interpreting services in a legal setting unless such person is registered with the commission according to the provisions of this section and holds (1) a comprehensive skills certificate from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (2) a certificate of interpretation and a certificate of transliteration from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, (3) a level five certification from the National Association of the Deaf, (4) a reverse skills certificate or is a certified deaf interpreter under the National Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, (5) for situations requiring an oral interpreter only, oral certification from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, [or] (6) for situations requiring a cued speech transliterator only, certification from the National Training, Evaluation and Certification Unit and has passed the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf written generalist test, or (7) holds a National Association of the Deaf-National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf National Interpreting Certificate.

(f) The requirements of this section shall apply to persons who receive compensation for the provision of interpreting services and

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include those who provide interpreting services as part of their job duties.

(g) The provisions of subsection (c) of this section shall not apply to any person providing interpreting services in an educational setting until July 1, 2003.

Approved May 7, 2007